

Testimony in Support of HB 5267

HB 5267 (Mortimer) Family law; child custody; joint custody; mandate in every custody dispute between parents except in certain circumstances.

I Ramarao Srinivasa, am the Director of Political Action Committee – People Against Corruption (PAC).

I can testify about all the good things that shared parenting brings to the greater good of the children of Michigan. Many other people here are going to testify to those facts.

I believe that false and fraudulent statements are being made by groups opposing this bill. My testimony is to show these groups' vested interests and the incentives they have for opposing this bill.

I have seen the statements made by Women's organizations such as NOW, Friend of the court and the State Bar.

Incentives for NOW – Feminist agenda: money and power - if women have sole custody, one can rule with power over the non custodial male parent! Monetary contributions to NOW from custody queens (sole custody mothers) – similar to welfare queens of the 90s.

NOW and their friends like Boston Globe twist and spin domestic violence numbers as can be seen in the example below:

Here is the lead sentence of a Boston Globe article that appeared on May 9, 2002: "Murder is the leading cause of death for Massachusetts mothers in the 21-month period from when they become pregnant until their babies reach their first birthday, according to a state review that shows domestic violence today is more dangerous than medical complications from childbirth."

This statement is based on a study carried out by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

But what are the actual numbers reported in that study?

From 1990 to 1999, here were the causes of death of pregnant or recently-pregnant women:

- Medical conditions - 152
- Motor vehicle accidents - 21
- Domestic violence homicides – 20
- Other homicides – 10
- Miscellaneous – 29

So how do you possibly get from these numbers to the lead sentence above? The answer is: you twist and spin the numbers, or just plainly hide the complete details of the numbers.

Let us take a look at NOW of Michigan and what they support and what their agenda could be. Michigan NOW has been fighting to get clemency for women who murdered their husbands and boy friends using battered women syndrome. There are 50 different studies that show that women are equally (if not more) responsible for domestic violence. The battered woman syndrome defense was used to support the teacher who hacked her husband to death in Farmington a couple of years ago. Luckily, Police were able to find a Home Depot tape in which this same teacher went to Home Depot and stole a hatchet similar to one she used to kill her

husband and returned it with her receipt thinking that she would prove that she did not have such a weapon. But, the jury found her story to be not at all credible regarding domestic violence/battered woman syndrome and she was sent to Jail. This is the pattern that Michigan NOW is perpetuating.

National Organization for Women and Michigan NOW have a habit of presenting fraudulent statistics about domestic violence to the news media and to legislative bodies to incite fear, uncertainty and doubt about shared parenting. It is the women who are trying to control their ex-husbands by requesting full custody of the children and making the children lose one parent for ever.

NOW also argues that the current laws are sufficient for Judges to make proper ruling. Let us look at what the judge said while sentencing the hatchet murderer (teacher in the above cited case) after the jury found her guilty beyond reasonable doubt – "I can't believe for one instance that you went out to Home Depot to buy a hatchet to kill your husband. It just doesn't make any sense. I don't take any pleasure in sentencing you to life in prison, but I have no discretion in imposing the sentence I have to impose by law. I only feel pity for you and I feel pity for your family."

Judges are still under the false belief that women are victims. They have not opened their eyes to the fact that women victimize men by stealing away their children.

NOW also argues that many non-custodial parents are asking for joint custody to reduce child support. There is nothing wrong in asking that there be a fair assessment of child support. I will give examples of why child support is not based on fair assessment in Michigan.

Michigan Child Support is based on a study by Policy Studies, Inc. (PSI), Denver, CO. Let us take a look at PSI. PSI is a "for profit" corporation from Colorado and has a vested interest in increasing child support as much as it can whether it makes economic sense or not. For example PSI entered into a contract with Nebraska DHHS and became a collection agency for collecting child support! The more money it collected on child support, more profits for PSI ! PSI is a collection agency masquerading as an economics expert.

NOW also talks about "experts" and that it is better for children to be in one residence, but those same experts have all kinds of monetary incentives to state whatever makes them more money at that time.

In "Raising America: Experts, Parents, and a Century of Advice About Children", Ann Hulbert clearly shows how experts have contradicted themselves in their guidance about how to raise children. If any expert comes up here and makes claims about sole custody being better, they are doing it just to line their pockets and not for the best interest of the children of Michigan.

The newsworld article in January 2006 clearly detailed "boy crisis" because of absent fathers due to sole custody and women making it difficult for children to see their fathers. Ofcourse, the liberal media screamed about the article and I have attached the response by US news reporter to that shows what the liberal media is trying to do when articles regarding absent fathers are presented.

Incentives for Friend of the Court – their jobs and pension!

The more FOC increases child support, the more money the county gets! A great incentive for FOC to give full custody to one parent and make the other parent pay tons of money. There is a report below that shows that FOC is basically increasing tax on the non-custodial parents (in the form of child support) so that tax burden on other people of the county can be reduced.

Quoting verbatim from Leelanau County's Child Support report –

"Program Funding

Under the IV-D agreement the State pays 66% and the County pays 34% of the costs of the program. Those costs include funding a part-time Family Support Coordinator (21 hours weekly) and 10% of the Prosecutor's time.

In addition, Leelanau County receives monetary reimbursement under the federal incentive program. The incentives are based on five criteria: rate of paternity orders, rate of support orders, collection of current support, collection of arrears, and cost effectiveness per case. We compete with the other counties for this money. The higher our percentage, the more money we will be reimbursed. Through this we can realize a tax savings for Leelanau County residents. Our reimbursement money goes to our tri-county (Antrim Grand Traverse, and Leelanau) Friend of the Court office, reducing our contribution to their budget."

It is on Leelanau county's website:

http://www.leelanaucounty.com/downloads/title_ivd_2003_yearly_report.pdf

Incentives for State Bar – Money for their attorneys!


State bar is in the business of increasing revenue for their members – trial lawyers. Almost 70% of the cases in Michigan are related to family law (of course it should be named divorce law, not family law, what an oxymoron!). If there is joint custody these lawyers are expected to lose lot of their income because they are spearheading these custody fights to make more money with corrupt judges. If these lawyers had the best interest of children, they would line up to support HB 5267.

In the end, Michigan parents and children are being taken for a ride by NOW, FOC and the State bar of Michigan. These groups are not interested in the best interest of the children, they are interested in lining their pockets.

I will end with a statement by Frederick Douglas, "Where justice is denied, where poverty is enforced, where ignorance prevails and where any one class is made to feel that society is an organized conspiracy, to oppress, rob or degrade them, neither person's nor property will be safe." This oppressed class is the non-custodial parent.

It is time to STOP this legal terrorism against men by passing HB 5267.

Otherwise as Frederick Douglas said, soon a day might come like Bastille day when the head of the prison governor in Paris was slit and paraded in the streets and the French revolution started.



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